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RECEIVE BICHARD W. WIEKING
NORTHERN DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
MAD 2.6 1007 OAKLAND

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MAR 26 1997

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CLAUDIA WILKEN U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

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12 JOHN ARMSTRONG, et al.,

No. C-94-2307 CW

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v.

PETE WILSON, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

Defendants.

STIPULATION AND ORDER FOR PERIODIC COLLECTION OF ATTORNEYS' FEES AND COSTS

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Section G of the Remedial Order and Injunction dated September 20, 1996, requires the parties to negotiate an order for the periodic collection of post-judgment attorneys fees and costs. The parties, by their undersigned counsel, do stipulate and the Court, having considered the matter, hereby orders as follows:

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1. Plaintiffs' counsel will submit quarterly statements to defendants' counsel for post-judgment attorneys' fees and costs. The statements will itemize the time spent, subject activity, applicable attorney and other personnel billing rates, and costs and expenses with sufficient particularity to



- allow the defendants and the Court to identify the efforts undertaken and to determine whether the activity is appropriately compensable. The first quarterly statement of each year will identify the billing rates plaintiffs' counsel seeks for that year. The billing statements submitted by plaintiffs' counsel shall not include declarations or other supporting pleadings. Such declarations or other supporting pleadings shall be prepared only for and at the time of filing any motion to compel.
- Upon receipt of plaintiffs' statement each quarter, defendants will have thirty days in which to respond with their objections and the bases therefore. As to disputed items, including the proposed billing rates in the first quarterly statement, plaintiffs' and defendants' counsel are required to meet and confer within thirty (30) days after defendants have notified plaintiffs of any disputed item(s). Ιf the parties are able promptly to resolve any part or all of the fee disputes, counsel shall immediately prepare a stipulated order for payment of the fees not subject to defendants' objections. Both sides shall sign the order and present it to the Court for entry. Defendants shall have forty-five days from the entry of the order to pay the undisputed fees. Interest on these fees and costs will run from the date the order is entered by the Court, accruing at the rate provided by 28 U.S.C. § 1961.
- 3. If defendants refuse to sign any stipulated payment order, or unreasonably delay the process described in paragraph 2, above, plaintiffs' counsel may submit directly to the Court an unstipulated form of order for collection of fees that are not disputed, together with a certification of counsel

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under penalty of perjury setting forth the relevant facts and circumstances. Defendants' counsel may respond within five court days of receipt of the proposed order and certification.

Plaintiffs' counsel may reply within two court days after receipt of defendants' response, if any. The Court will rule on plaintiffs' application without conducting a hearing unless it considers such a hearing necessary, and will issue plaintiffs' proposed order or another appropriate order unless defendants show a reasonable basis for disputing the fees and expenses plaintiffs have claimed to be undisputed. If any party determines that systematic problems in the meet and confer process have arisen, that party may move for further modification of this process, by noticed motion made pursuant to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and the Rules of this Court.

- 4. Plaintiffs will file a yearly motion to compel payment of disputed items, if necessary, not later than sixty (60) days after the parties meet and confer with respect to the statement covering the fourth quarter of each year. If defendants oppose any billing rates plaintiffs' counsel will bring a motion to compel on this issue following the first quarterly statement of each year.
- 5. In the event that an unusually large number of hours or a significant issue is in dispute, plaintiffs may bring a quarterly motion to compel on those issues alone. Any such quarterly motion to compel will be filed no later than thirty (30) days after the parties have met and conferred on the quarterly statement at issue. Such motions will be briefed and heard on the usual schedule provided by the local rules.

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- 6. Plaintiffs reserve their right to seek prejudgment interest on any disputed amounts sought under paragraphs 4 and 5 above. Post-judgment interest on any disputed amounts will accrue at the rate provided by 28 U.S.C. § 1961 from the date any order awarding such amounts is entered by the Court.
- 7. The standard of review to be applied to disputed billing items will be as follows: plaintiffs shall be entitled to be compensated for attorneys' fees and costs reasonably necessary to ensure defendants' compliance with Section A of the remedial order and injunction dated September 20, 1996. However, the parties dispute the standard of review applicable to all further activity. The parties' positions with regard to further activity is as follows:
 - It is plaintiffs' position that defendants are obligated to pay plaintiffs' fees, costs, and reasonable litigation expenses that are useful and necessary in developing a remedy and monitoring compliance with the Court's orders. Plaintiffs' position is based on Section G of the remedial order which states that "[p]laintiffs shall be entitled to fees, litigation expenses and costs as authorized by law to ensure compliance with this Order and subsequent remedial orders, including those implementing the quidelines, plans, procedures, policies and evaluations set forth above, . . . "
 - It is defendants' position that they are obligated to pay plaintiffs' fees, costs, and reasonable litigation expenses only if plaintiffs prevail in demonstrating that the relief sought is mandated by the ADA

or Rehabilitation Act and only to the extent otherwise required under the law applicable at the time of the dispute. Similarly, if plaintiffs seek a court order requiring defendants to take any specific action in implementing defendants' evaluations, guidelines, plans, policies and procedures, it is defendants' position that they are obligated to pay plaintiffs' fees, costs, and reasonable expenses only if plaintiffs prevail in demonstrating that the relief sought is mandated by the ADA or Rehabilitation Act and only to the extent otherwise required under the law applicable at the time of the dispute.

- 8. So long as the plaintiffs' counsel submit quarterly billing statements to the defendants in a timely fashion all compensable activities will be awarded, now and in the future, at the rates current at the time the billing statements are submitted to the defendants instead of at historic rates.
- 9. Defendants shall pay the full amounts ordered paid, with any legal interest owing, no later than forty-five (45) days after the date each payment order is entered by the Court. If payment is not voluntarily made by the 45th day,
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counsel for plaintiffs may obtain said amount by writ of 1 execution upon state funds and/or other appropriate accounts by certification under penalty of perjury that voluntary payment has 3 not been made. 4 We do so stipulate. 5 6 Dated: March 25, 1997 8 Counsel for Plaintiffs 9 3/21/97 Dated: 10 Counsel for Defendants 11 12 13 14 IT IS SO ORDERED. 15 MAR 2 6 1997 Dated: 16 United States District Judge 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26

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